

BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

P.O. Box 944246
 SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
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Request for Effectiveness Monitoring Project Proposals

Initial Project Concept Proposals Due by **August 17, 2018**

Effectiveness Monitoring Committee
 California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection

Commented [HR1]: How does this sound as a due date? We won't have the project application forms done until after the June 25 EMC meeting, and we can't really launch the solicitation until we have those forms ready.

The Effectiveness Monitoring Committee (EMC) is seeking project proposals that:

- (1) Address one or more of the critical effectiveness monitoring questions identified in the EMC Strategic Plan¹ and
- (2) Address natural resource protection issues important for California forestlands.

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) anticipates having \$425,000 available to fund EMC projects in the 2018-19 fiscal year.

The EMC's Strategic Plan lists multiple critical monitoring questions organized under 11 themes:

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| 1. Watercourse and lake protection zone (WLPZ) riparian function, | 6. Wildfire hazard, |
| 2. Watercourse channel sediment, | 7. Wildlife habitat: species and nest sites, |
| 3. Road and WLPZ sediment, | 8. Wildlife habitat: seral stages, |
| 4. Mass wasting sediment, | 9. Wildlife habitat: cumulative impacts, |
| 5. Fish habitat, | 10. Wildlife habitat: structures, and |
| | 11. Hardwood values. |

Background

The EMC was formed by the California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) in ~~October~~ 2014. The goal of the EMC is to establish a collaborative, transparent, and science-based monitoring effort that delivers a physical and ecological process-based understanding of the effectiveness of the California Forest Practice Rules (FPRs) and other forestry-related laws and regulations in maintaining or enhancing water quality, aquatic habitat, and wildlife habitat. The EMC acts as a technical advisory committee to the Board for developing and implementing an effectiveness monitoring program that can provide an active feedback loop to policy makers, managers, agencies, and the public. Applicants are encouraged to submit monitoring project proposals that contribute to this active feedback loop. The EMC Charter and Strategic Plan are posted on the EMC web site:

http://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/board_committees/effectiveness_monitoring_committee/

Eligibility and Funding

~~While there are no eligibility restrictions on who may submit effectiveness monitoring proposals, we are only able to fund governmental and apply for funding entities.~~ Proposals where matching funds or in-kind contributors are identified are strongly encouraged, but not required. Proposals that do not

Commented [HR2]: What do you think of this change?

¹ http://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/board_committees/effectiveness_monitoring_committee/mission_goals/emc_strategic_plan_december_07_2017.pdf

require funding but seek to support EMC objectives and be part of the effectiveness monitoring program also are encouraged. All funding awards will be distributed through state procurement processes.

Proposal Format

Previous project proposals are available on the EMC web site and summarized in Appendix E of the Strategic Plan. While applicants are encouraged to review past accepted projects, the EMC now requires project submittals on specific forms, as described below.

Applicants must submit a one to two-page project summary for initial review using the "Initial Concept Proposal" template found on the EMC web site. If endorsed, the EMC will request a more detailed "Full Project Proposal." The EMC will use this "Full Project Proposal" to evaluate the project and consider it for final approval and funding recommendations to the Board. All sections of the templates must be filled out, and they may be broken into further subsections if necessary. There is no page requirement or page limit. The required forms are located on the EMC website at [xxxx](#)

Timeline

Initial Concept Proposals are solicited annually in June and are **due by August 17, 2018**. Following review of Initial Concept Proposals, EMC may request the submitter to develop a Full Project Proposal. Full Project Proposals will be evaluated by the EMC using the ranking criteria and approach outlined in Appendix F of the Strategic Plan. Ranking results will be posted on the EMC web site and project proponents will be notified of the results and receive comments from the EMC. The EMC will complete project proposal review and make any funding recommendations for the 2018-19 fiscal year not later than March 2019.

Commented [HR3]: This drops the 2X/year process that is in the Strategic Plan.

Transparency and Conflicts of Interest

Transparency is important to the EMC. All proposals, requests for funding, ranking results, and related project materials will be made publicly available on the EMC website. Final results and data from EMC-approved projects will be publicly available as well. If an EMC member is the principal investigator or a collaborator on a proposed project, the EMC member will recuse him- or herself from ranking that project or participating in funding recommendations for that project.

Contact Information

Interested applicants should carefully review this RFP and the EMC web site. To apply, proposals should be mailed or faxed in printed format or emailed in Microsoft Word or PDF format to:

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Please direct all questions and requests for further information to Matt Dias.